

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
7/6/75

Mr. Barney Rosset
Grove Press, Inc.
53 E. 11th St.,
New York, N.Y. 10003

Dear Barney,

Thanks for Cristina's note of the first and the enclosure.

By now the time specified in the contract has expired so I feel I can write you more freely. I have kept Dick York informed in letters he will not see until he returns from vacation.

When I asked McDonald if "Sherman Lindsay" had ~~any~~^{any} relatives he replied a brother. When I asked the brother's name he replied "Leonard."

You will recall he also told us that Sandy Smith and Tim had only then finished working on this. I think he said the week before. He told me I had question him the week before the meeting, anyway.

"Sherman" has four living siblings, two brothers, two sisters. His lady friend when he died was named Leonard, not his brother. I have interviewed this lady. So has Sandy Smith. Or, there is no secret who "Sherman" is. He also is entirely other than described in the book. He was not that kind of spook. He was a police expertise.

Smith has been working on CIA since he finished his Watergate work (which was quite unsensational and was much less than it could have been if he'd been willing to look into CIA complications I offered him and then followed on my own) according to what he told this lady. He interviewed her in April, which was long before McD told us and before what was offered to you was begun.

My recollection is vague but in it Smith had some kind of federal past. Time is not about to do a real CIA exposure. It would involve too many Time people. What they can be working on and what Smith was working on in this is a CIA white-wash, ridicule of its critics. This lady believes she can commune with The Other World. She did this with "Sherman" for Smith. I have a tape of it (properly). Smith went along, using two separate notebooks for the interview(s), one for the lady and one for the spirit of Sherman.

One person in the outline is given his real name. "Sherman" worked for him and lived in his office suite after "Sherman" was paid off by the CIA and had no connection. This man had a security business. It also happens that he has a farm near here and was to have spent this holiday weekend at it. This lady is to have called him and asked him if he would speak to me. It would have taken him less than ten minutes out of his way. He was to be told there was defamation of his former friend pending. I have heard nothing from him. I can reach him easily but I've elected not to for now.

There is much more for which I'm not taking your time or mine now. For example, some hankypanky within the government on some records that were top secret and of which I now have an abundance. Politically it could fit with the doctrine of this book if it is anything like a black book. This funny business coincides with the renewed effort with McDonald's crap.

Without trying to be a lawyer I want you to know there are live people who can resent what is said of them and theirs. "Sherman's" former wife also is very alive. I can reach her, as I suspect Smith has. He did interview the man whose real name is used, also in April.

Hastily,